

West, Texas Fertilizer Plant Animal Issues Response & Lessons Learned

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West, Texas Fertilizer Plant Response

- April 17th, 2013
- West Fertilizer Co. caught fire
- Ammonium nitrate
- Cause is still unknown



West Fertilizer Plant Response



Graphic courtesy of WFAA/940 Talk Radio



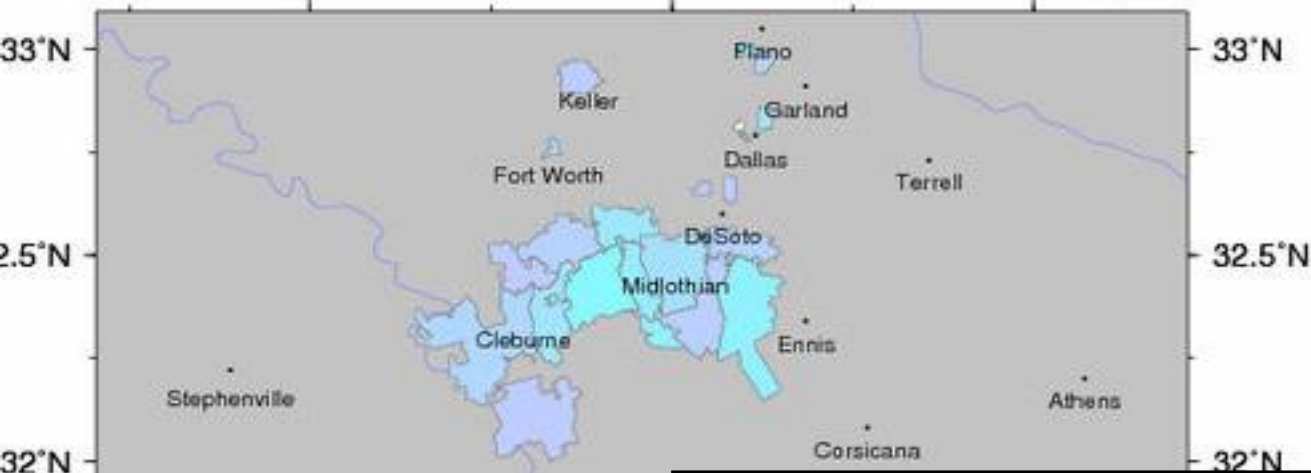
West Fertilizer Plant Response

- Approximately \$57 million in damages
- Homes, nursing home, high school and middle school damaged
- App. 200 treated for injuries
- 15 deaths



USGS Community Internet Intensity Map CENTRAL TEXAS

Apr 17 2013 07:50:38 PM local 31.817N 97.088W M2.1 Depth: 0 km ID:usb000g9yl



- 2.1 Richter scale - USGS
- felt 45m away

Photo by Erich Schlegel/Getty Images



Max CDI = IV

	98°W		97
INTENSITY	I	II-III	IV
SHAKING	Not felt	Weak	Light
DAMAGE	none	none	Very light

West Fertilizer Plant Response





Courtesy the AP



TAHC Liaison Picture



TAHC Responder



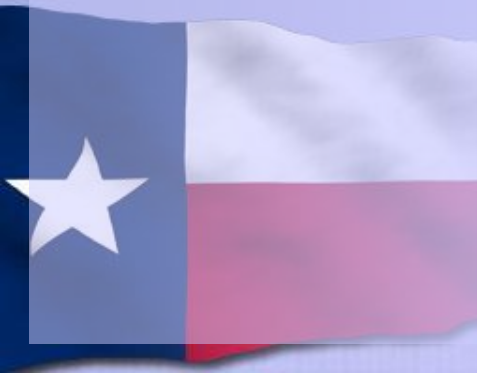
Courtesy WFAA News

West Fertilizer Plant Response

ABC News

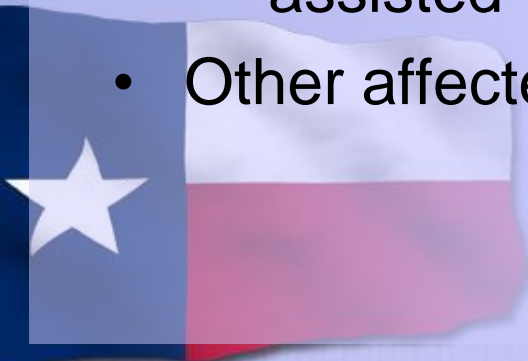


World News



Texas Animal Health Commission Response to West

- TAHC was deployed to West via request for support with animal issues through the Disaster District Committee
- Integrated into Incident Command Post to assist local animal personnel with coordination of animal issues
- TAHC personnel:
 - conducted animal needs assessments
 - assisted in relocation of livestock
 - assisted with carcass disposal
- Other affected premises were sheltered in place



Texas Response Structure:

Emergency Mgmt
Assistance Compact

FEMA

State Operations Center

Disaster District
Committee

Mutual Aid (County to County)/
Multi-agency Coordination Center

Local Response (on scene
ICP to Local EOC)

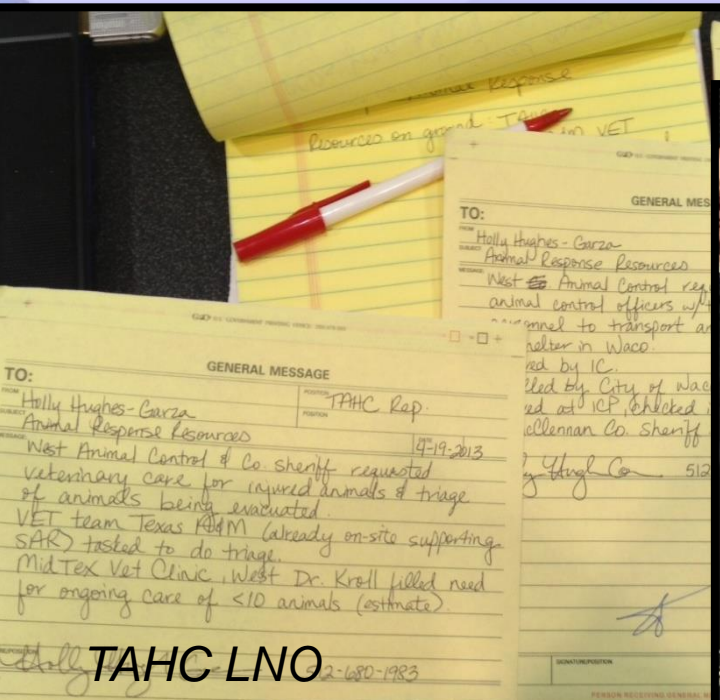


Lessons Learned

- Continue to quickly integrate into ICS, ensure local animal responders are included
- Continue to improve and implement communication protocols between response partners



Courtesy of the Statesman



Lessons Learned

- Continue to enhance responder PPE and credentials
- Continue to train responders to handle a variety of animal issues, including household pet issues



Lessons Learned

- Continue to improve response equipment
- Continue to refine decision making as to what resources should be deployed



Lessons Learned

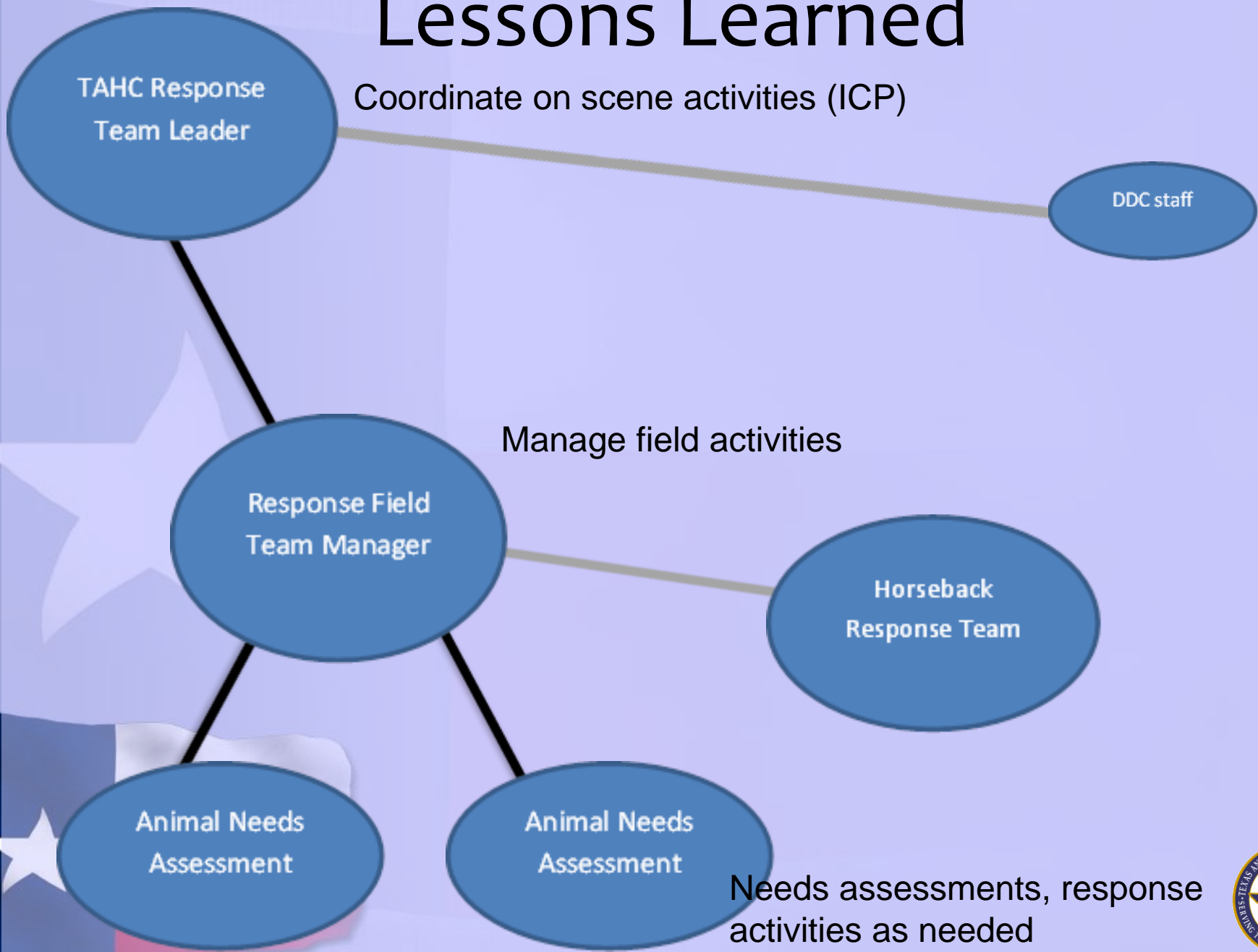
- Continue to train personnel in all-hazard events
- Local planning is still the key to enhancing animal response

TAHC Local Planning Resources:

<http://www.tahc.texas.gov/emergency/localplanning.html>



Lessons Learned



Future Efforts

- Teams and equipment ready for EMAC
- Will respond to other states for assistance upon request

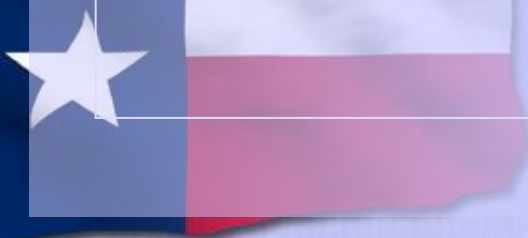


TAHC HORSEBACK EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM



TAHC Mission Ready Response Packages

Resource	Description	Equipment
Basic Response Team 1 Team Lead* 1 Field Response Manager 4 Inspectors	Integrate into overall response to support and coordinate resolutions to animal needs	4 trucks, 1 command trailer, 1 portable corral, comms equipment, response cargo trailer, generator
Animal Needs Assessment Team 2 Inspectors	Assess animal needs in affected areas, intervene if needed	2 trucks, TERT trailer, comms equipment
Livestock Handling Unit 3 Inspectors	Address handling and movement of livestock in disasters.	3 trucks, 1 port corral, set of panels, livestock trailer, squeeze chute, comms equipment



TAHC Mission Ready Response Packages

Resource	Description	Equipment
Horseback Response Team 2 Inspectors 1 logs support person	Animal assessments in remote areas; specialized livestock handling when needed	2 trucks, livestock trailer, 2 Horses, Portable Panels, TERT trailer, comms equipment
Incident Command Staff (Type III)	Incident Commander Operations Section Chief Planning Section Chief	Resource Unit Leader Public Information Officer Safety Officer Liaison Officer



Questions?

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